

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO USMISSION GENEVA 1239

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 066902

FOL REPEAT BANGKOK 4934 SENT ACTION SECSTATE MARCH 26

QTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BANGKOK 4934

AIDAC

E. O. 11652: N/A

SUBJ: NARCOTICS-SPECIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE AUTHORITY

REF : M.O. 1323.1

1. REPRESENTATIVE OF KING'S HILLTRIBE PROJECT HAS REQUESTED
US ASSISTANCE IN PROVIDING WATER TO EXPERIMENTAL FARM
ASSOCIATED WITH ONE OF ITS VILLAGES, CHANG KHIEN. THIS
FARM ALSO USED BY UNFDAC PROJECT FOR CROP EXPERIMENTATION
INTENDED TO FIND ADEQUATE SUBSTITUTE FOR OPIUM POPPY.

2. THE AMBASSADOR HAS VISITED THIS FARM AS A GUEST OF THE KING
AND IS PERSONNALLY INTERESTED IN ACHIEVING A PROMPT AND POSITIVE
RESPONSE FROM THE US TO THIS REQUEST.

3. PROJECT, ESTIMATED TO COST \$15,000, WILL CONSIST OF
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PROVIDING LOCAL MATERIALS (PIPE, ETC.) AND OTHER INPUTS

NEEDED TO BRING WATER TWO KILOMETERS OVER EXTREMELY
DIFFICULT TERRAIN TO THE 200 RAI EXPERIMENTAL AREA.
THE FARM WILL SUPPLY NEEDED ALTERNATIVE INCOME TO OPIUM
TO THE VILLAGERS OF CHANG KHIEN AS WELL AS REPLICABLE
OUTPUT ON CROPS SUBSTITUTABLE FOR OPIUM.

3. MISSION DESIRES DO THIS PROJECT UNDER AUTHORITY
PROVIDED M.O. 1323.1 AND BELIEVE PROJECT MEETS CRITERIA
THIS M.O. FOR FOLLOWING REASONS:
(A) MUST BE DONE QUICKLY, AS ONCOMING RAINY SEASON
WILL MAKE INSTALLATION OF SYSTEM IMPOSSIBLE AFTER JUNE1.
(B) LOCAL CURRENCY ESSENTIAL FOR IMPLEMENTATION THIS PROJECT.
(C) ASSISTANCE TO KING'S HILLTRIBE PROJECT, A
PRESTIGIOUS UNDERTAKING IN NORTH THAILAND CLOSELY MONITORED
BY THE KING HIMSELF, WILL DEMONSTRATE TO HIS MAJESTY US
COMMITMENT TO ASSISTING RTG IN ALL WAYS POSSIBLE IN THEIR
EFFORTS TO ELIMINATE OPIUM POPPY CULTIVATION AND IMPROVE
LOT OF HILLTRIBES. IMPACT WILL BE HIGH.
(D) POSSIBILITY THAT DEMONSTRATION EFFECT OF SUCCESSFUL
IRRIGATED FARM IN FORMER OPIUM FIELD WILL PROVOKE RTG
INTO UNDERTAKING SIMILAR SCHEMES ELSEWHERE IN NORTH.
(E) PROJECT ONE TIME EFFORT TO COMPLEMENT WORK ALREADY
DONE ON FARM BY THAI (ROAD BUILT, LAND CLEARED, DRY CROPS
PLANTED). ALSO COMPLEMENTARY TO EFFORTS OF UNFDAC PROJECT.
(F) ACTION: REQUEST NARCOTICS ALLOTMENT \$15,000 TO BE
OBLIGATED UNDER SPECIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE AUTHORITY
PROCEDURES. ADVISE ASAP.

KINTNER

UNQTE
RUSH

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Message Attributes

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